Interactive Network Guide

Abstract

An interactive network guide acts as a computer-based decision support aid for

5   computer novices to design and build a network, such as for a home or small office

environment. The guide presents a sequence of questions to gather input data from a user

describing the user's computers and environment. The guide evaluates this input data

and presents one or more suitable network topologies, which may include hybrid

solutions. The guide then dynamically generates a network diagram, shopping list and

10   setup instructions for the user's selection from the suitable network topologies.